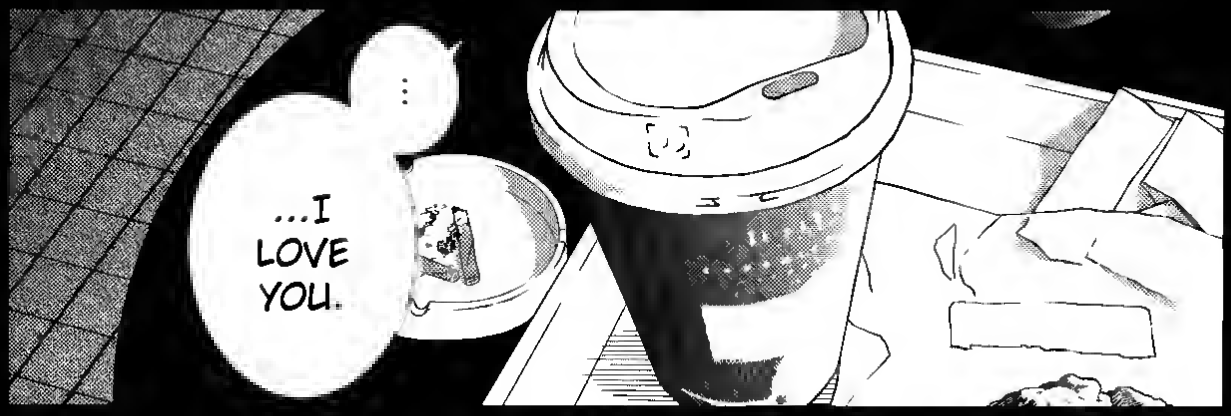
...I'D NEVER PLANNED FOR IT TO HAPPEN.



I MEAN, IT WAS JUST A NORMAL COMPANY LUNCH MEETING

I EXCHANGED SOME SIMPLE WORDS WITH ONE OF MY EMPLOYEES

...BUT

ending
エンディング
...I DIDN'T.
I'M THE KIND OF PERSON
WHO DOESN'T REFUSE THOSE WHO COME TO ME NOR FOLLOW THOSE WHO LEAVE ME
ON THAT DAY, I STARTED DATING A WOMAN ONE YEAR OLDER THAN ME,
AND THREE CENTI-METERS SHORTER THAN ME.
...DES-PITE THAT
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT SHE HATED ME
...YOU KNEW...!
...I MEAN,
AS THE MOMENT PASSED
I KNEW SHE WAS SENSITIVE TO SMOKE
SO ON THAT DAY, I STOPPED SMOKING, FOR HER SAKE.

AND NOW
IT'S BEEN A YEAR AND TWO MONTHS SINCE WE BECAME A "COUPLE".
...
-CHAN.
...MEE-CHAN.
I'M SOR-RY!
I'VE GOT CREAM ON MY FACE RIGHT NOW, SO COME BOTHER ME LATER.
!!!
...TSU-GUMI.
...YEAH?

AND SINCE WE HAD STRANGE CIRCUM-STANCES, OUR RELA-TIONSHIP STATRED SLOWLY.
TO BE HONEST, SHE'S THE FIRST WOMAN I'VE DATED,
BUT
DATING A WOMAN... IT'S KIND OF...
Ahhhh, I wanted to leave it on for five more minutes!!
...WELL, ANY-WAYS,
I'M NOT DAITNG HER BECAUSE SHE'S A WOMAN, I'M DATING HER BECAUSE OF WHO SHE IS INSIDE.
ah
...OKAY, I'M OUT.
M-
MEE-CHAN...
...BUT

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE, I'VE ALWAYS BEEN A WOMAN.
...MEE-CHAN.
...DO YOU...
...STILL LOVE ME?
WHEN A WOMAN CRIES LIKE THIS
SHE KNOWS IT'S BECAUSE THE MORE PITIFUL SHE LOOKS,
THE MORE EVERYONE ELSE WILL WANT TO COODLE HER
...IT'S OKAY.

CONFERENCE ROOM 2

IN USE

I HAD NEVER PLANNED ON THINGS ENDING UP THAT WAY.

THE REASON I'VE CALLED YOU HERE TODAY...

Err

HASE-GAWA-SAN.

...AND ON TOP OF THAT, WE WERE BOTH WOMEN.

I WAS IN A RELATION-SHIP WITH A COWORKER. ONE OF MY OWN, TOO.

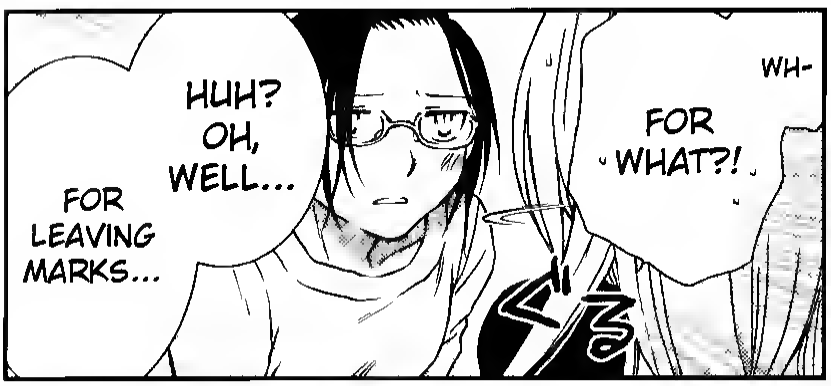
I DON'T SEE YOU MAKING MUCH PROGRESS ON YOUR WORK, HASEGAWA-SAN.
HERE.
YOUR WHOLE DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE SHARING THE AMOUNT OF WORK YOU'RE DOING HERE.
...I CAN HANDLE IT.
DON'T WORRY.
...WELL, EVEN IF YOU SAY THAT,
YOU STILL HAVE YOUR HANDS FULL WITH THE REVISIONS FROM EARLIER, RIGHT?
...BUT!
I APPRECIATE YOUR ENTHUSIASM AND DEDICATION,
BUT...
...WE HAD A PRETTY AWFUL WORKING RELATIONSHIP.
RIGHT NOW, YOU REALLY CAN'T HANDLE IT, CAN YOU?

IF THIS GOES ON FOR MUCH LONGER, HER COWORKERS WILL GET UPSET, AND WE'LL RUN INTO PROBLEMS WITH THE SCHEDULE...
...HMM,
I'LL ASK MY SUPERVISOR ABOUT SPLITTING UP THE WORK.
!
AND I'LL ASSIGN NEXT MONTH'S MULTILINGUAL SUPPORT WORK TO ANOTHER PERSON.
...I'LL BE OKAY. I'LL WORK SATURDAYS.
...I CAN'T LET YOU DO THAT.
TO BE HONEST
...I CAN'T TRUST YOU WHEN YOU SAY YOU'LL "WORK HARD" OR THAT YOU'LL BE "OKAY"...
...NO MORE THAN I CAN TRUST MYSELF WHEN I SAY THAT!
I WAS ALWAYS WONDERING HOW SHE MANAGED TO DO THAT MUCH WORK

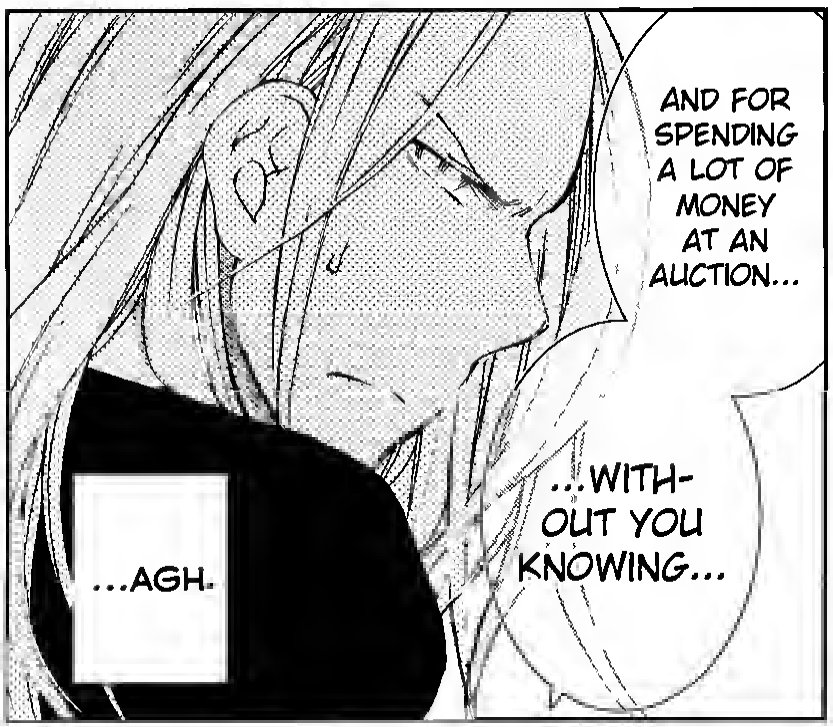
SO I AM EXTREMELY CAREFUL
...
...EXTREMELY CAREFUL TO ACT STUPID
MN!
...AH-
AH!
...
MEE-CHAN.
yeah.
MEE-CHAN, DOES THAT FEEL GOOD?

MN!
DEEP-ER...
AH!
RIGHT THERE...
...RIGHT THERE!
...AH!
...IT ALL COMES TOGETHER
MN...
...NN!
OUR FINGERS, OUR TONGUES
OUR SKIN, OUR SCENT
...IT'S ALMOST LIKE

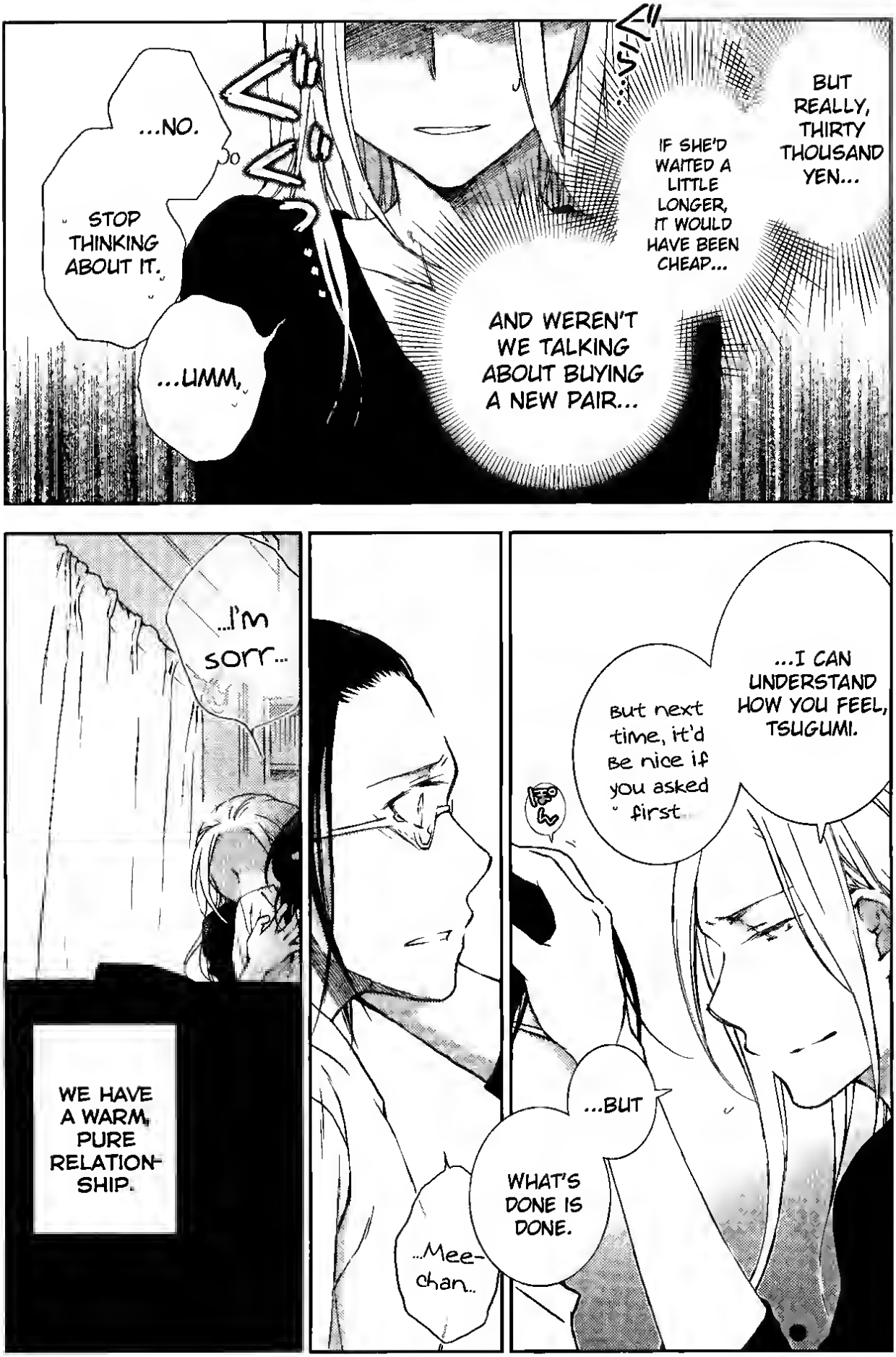
TSUGU-
MIIIIII...
AUGH...
...


HUH?
OH,
WELL...
FOR
LEAVING
MARKS...
WH-
FOR
WHAT?!

I TOLD YOU
I HAD TO
COME INTO
WORK TODAY!
Oh,
jeez!
I need
a scarf,
a scarf...!!
...I'M
SOR-
RY.


AND FOR
SPENDING
A LOT OF
MONEY
AT AN
AUCTION...
...WITH-
OUT YOU
KNOWING...
...AGH.

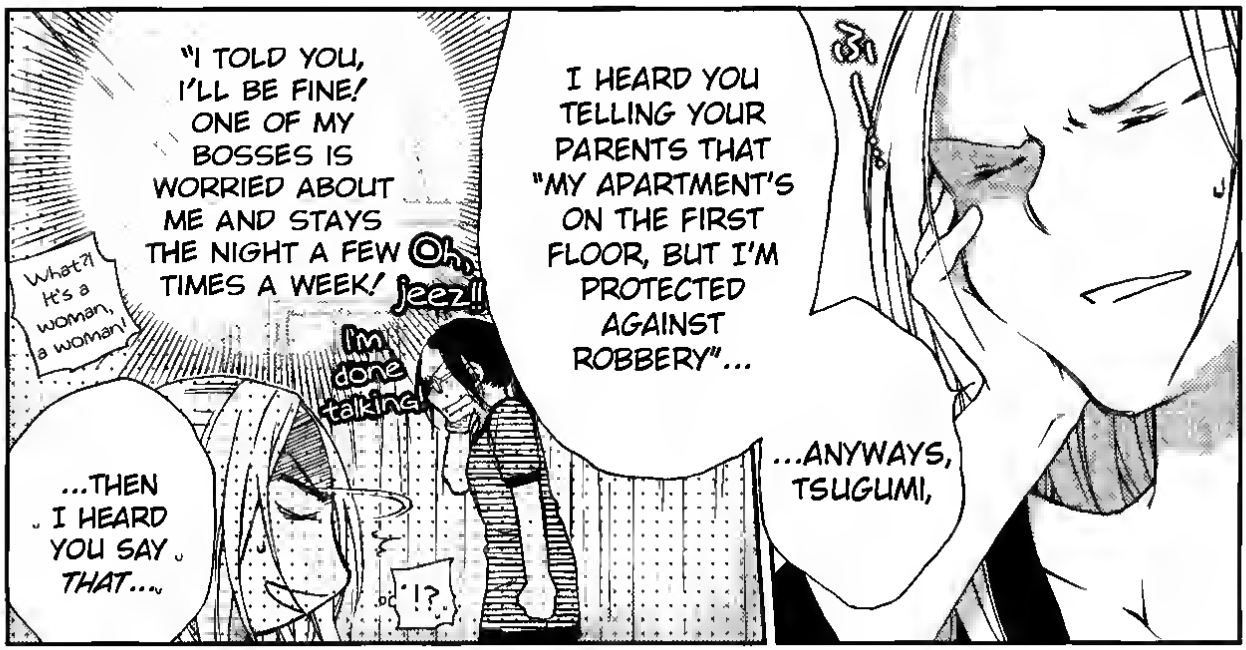
...
Twenty-nine thousand three hu
...WAIT,
...HOW MUCH DID YOU PAY FOR IT?
er...
29,300 YEN...
(about $350)
B-
No, 29,300!
THAT'S ALMOST 30,000!
B-B-
B-But...
BUT!!
-NDRED?!
NO, THIRTY THOU-SAND YEN...
YOU SPENT TWENTY THOU-SAND...
ON THAT?!
...WE FINALLY HAD A MATCHING PAIR...
BUT I ACCIDEN-TALLY STEPPED ON IT...
SO...
...THIS IS
WHAT PISSES ME OFF ABOUT HER.

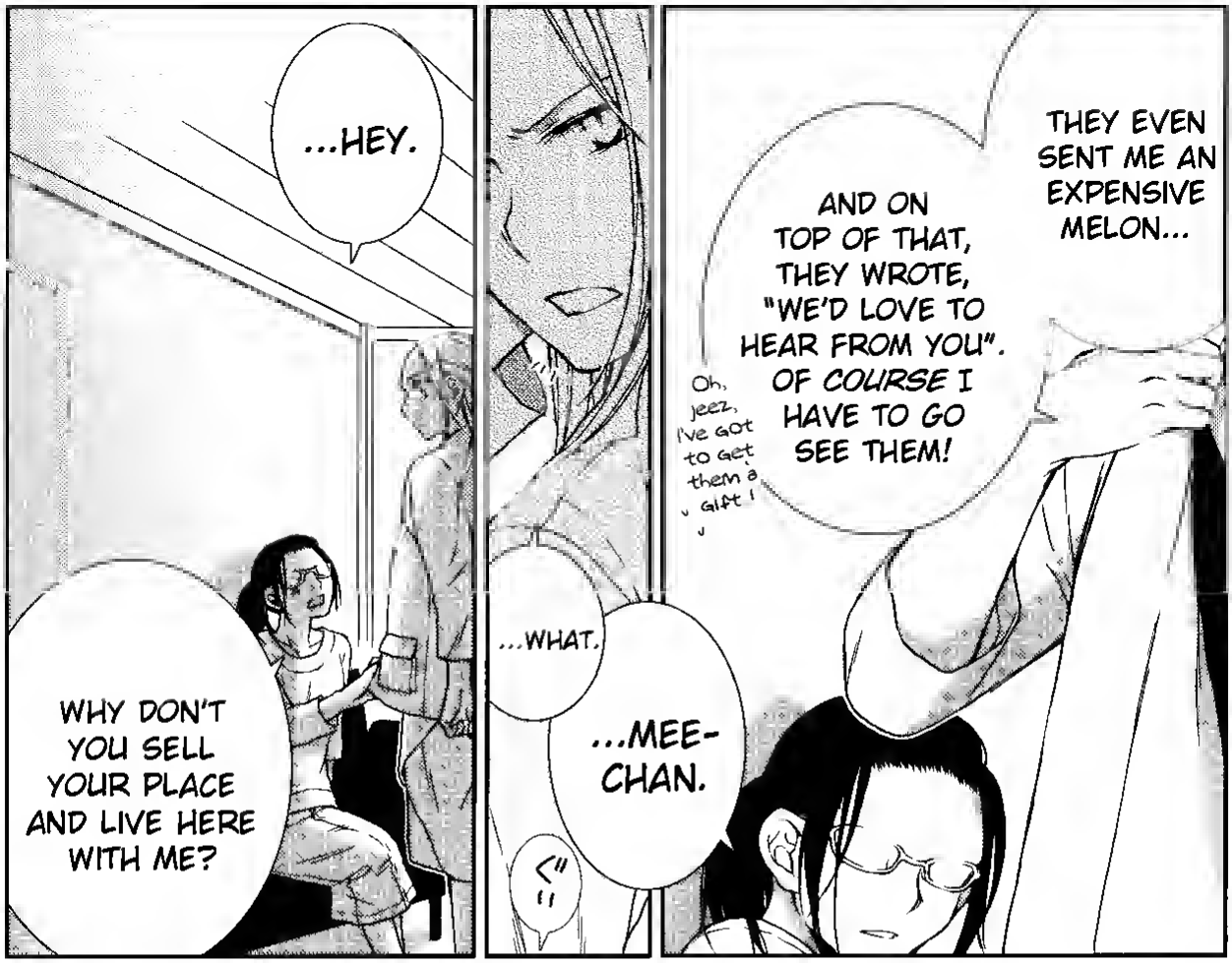

BUT REALLY, THIRTY THOUSAND YEN...
IF SHE'D WAITED A LITTLE LONGER, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN CHEAP...
AND WEREN'T WE TALKING ABOUT BUYING A NEW PAIR...
...UMM,
STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.
...NO.
...I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, TSUGUMI.
But next time, it'd be nice if you asked first.
...BUT
WHAT'S DONE IS DONE.
...Mee-chan...
...I'm sorr...
WE HAVE A WARM, PURE RELATION-SHIP.

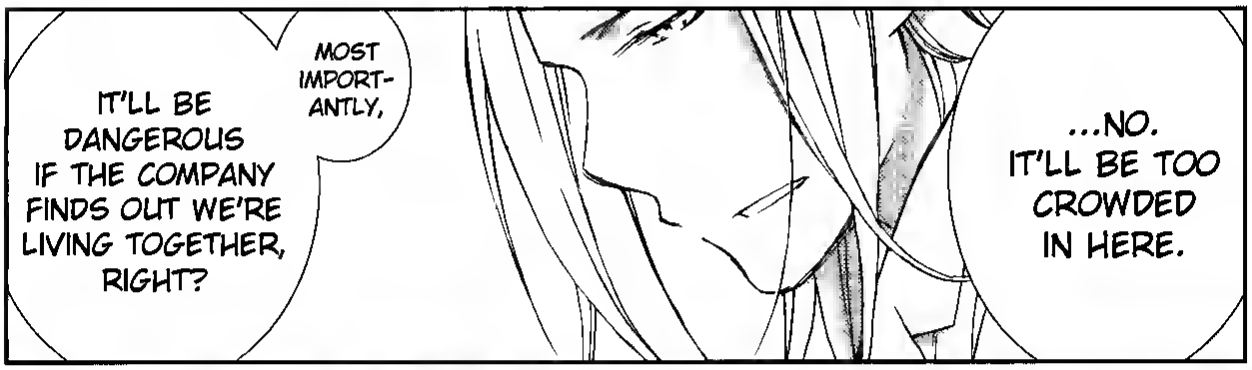
...SO
WHAT IS SHE APOLOGIZING FOR...?
...BUT I KNOW THAT IT JUST APPEARS THAT WAY
LIKE ALL THE OTHER THINGS WE SHARE
LIKE OUR SIMILAR VALUES
AND HOW WE DON'T KEEP SECRETS FROM EACH OTHER
...HUH?
WAS... THERE SOMETHING HAPPENING TONIGHT?
ゾワ
...OKAY.
I'VE GOT TO TAKE CARE OF THINGS BEFORE WE GET READY FOR TONIGHT,
ha ha
lots to do
SO I'M OFF TO WORK...

UMM... IT'S TODAY... RIGHT?
YOUR FAMILY IS COMING TO VISIT US ALL THE WAY FROM HOKKAIDO...
And they're going to have dinner with us
OH...
BUT THEY SAID THEY WERE GOING TO DO SOME SIGHTSEEING, SO WE DON'T HAVE TO EAT WITH THEM.
And we don't know where we're eating yet either
...TSU-GUMI...

YOU'RE AN ADULT! YOU SHOULD AT LEAST THANK YOUR PARENTS EVERY WEEK FOR THE ALLOWANCE THEY'RE SENDING YOU!
"Sight-seeing" is just an excuse! They're here to see YOU!
A-
ALLOWANCE?! BUT MY FAMILY'S JUST A BUNCH OF FARMERS! AND THEIR CROPS AREN'T HIGH ENOUGH QUALITY TO EVEN SHIP OUT OF THE COUNTY!
-we've never had to buy rice, though.
!!!

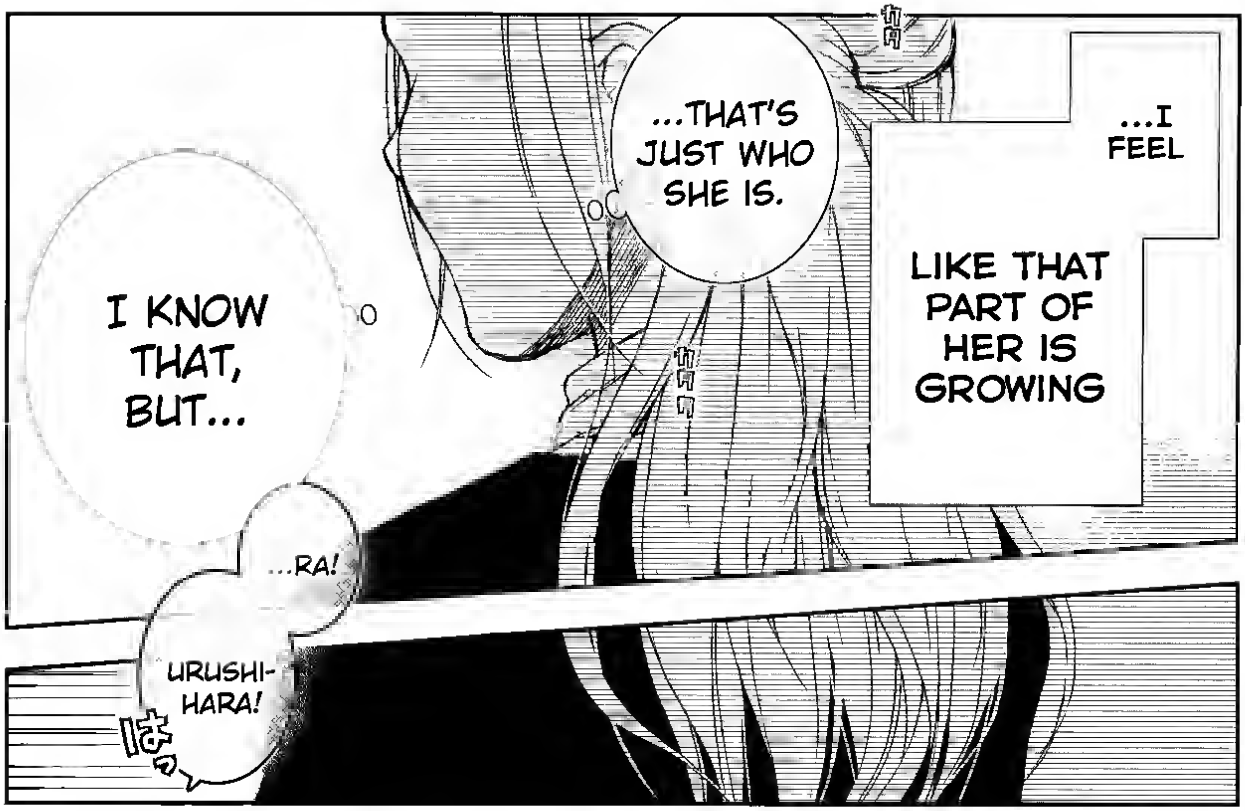

...ANYWAYS, TSUGUMI,
I HEARD YOU TELLING YOUR PARENTS THAT "MY APARTMENT'S ON THE FIRST FLOOR, BUT I'M PROTECTED AGAINST ROBBERY"...
"I TOLD YOU, I'LL BE FINE! ONE OF MY BOSSES IS WORRIED ABOUT ME AND STAYS THE NIGHT A FEW TIMES A WEEK!
Oh, jeez!!
I'm done talking!
What?! It's a woman, a woman!
...THEN I HEARD YOU SAY THAT...
!?


...HEY.
WHY DON'T YOU SELL YOUR PLACE AND LIVE HERE WITH ME?
...WHAT.
...MEE-CHAN.
<"
AND ON TOP OF THAT, THEY WROTE, "WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU". OF COURSE I HAVE TO GO SEE THEM!
Oh, jeez, I've got to get them a gift!
THEY EVEN SENT ME AN EXPENSIVE MELON...


IT'LL BE DANGEROUS IF THE COMPANY FINDS OUT WE'RE LIVING TOGETHER, RIGHT?
MOST IMPORT-ANTLY,
...NO. IT'LL BE TOO CROWDED IN HERE.

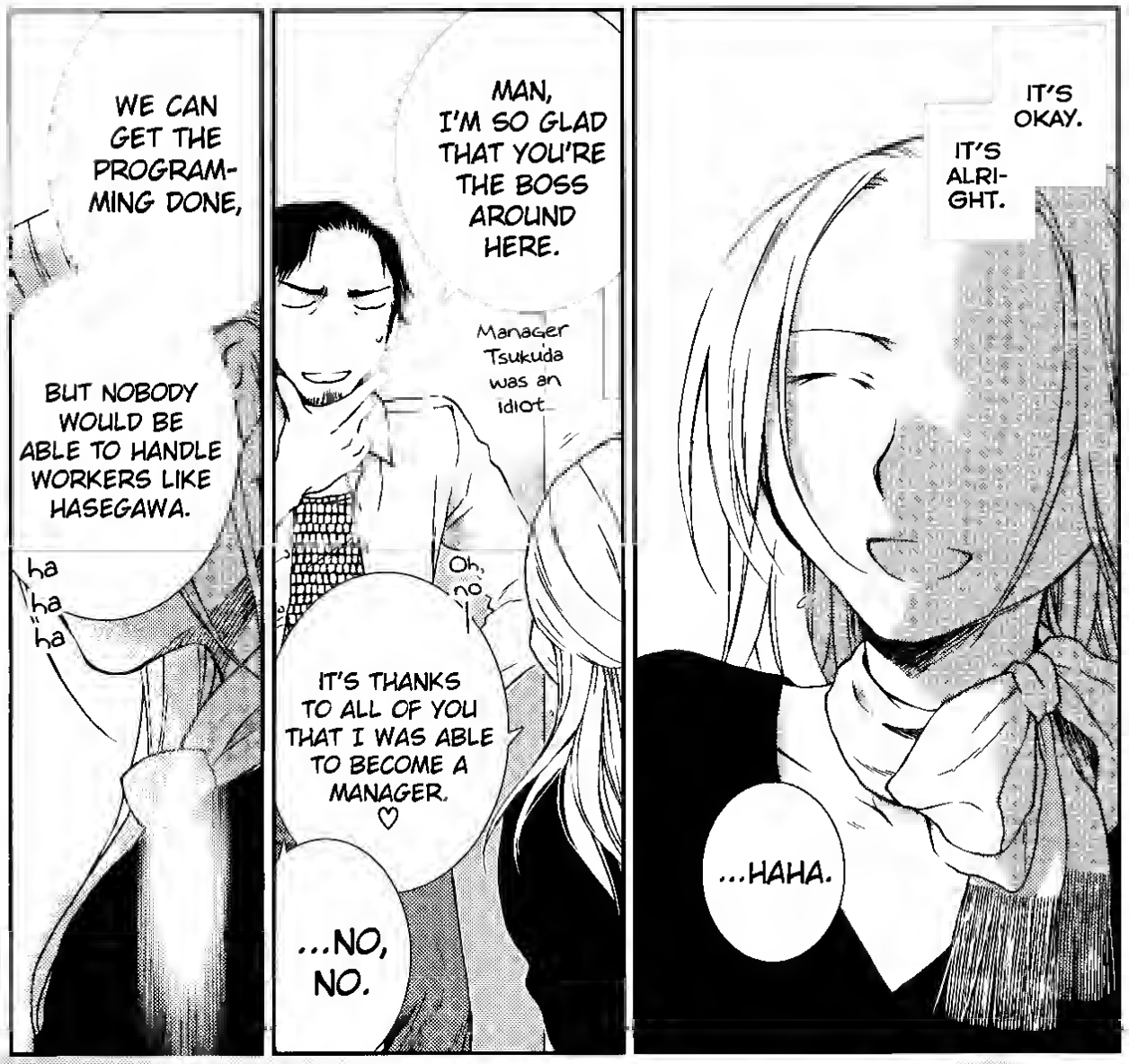
...BUT I-
FINE!
MY PLACE IS CLOSER TO WORK, AND YOU SPEND MOST OF YOUR TIME HERE...
...BUT YOU'RE JUST WASTING YOUR MONEY PAYING YOUR RENT.

BUY A BIGGER APARTMENT THEN!
YOU'RE A MANAGER,
YOU MAKE MORE MONEY THAN I DO, ANYWAYS!
...EVEN IF SHE WAS JUST JOKING,
I THOUGHT TO MYSELF,
"SHE REALLY NEEDS TO LEARN HER PLACE"
#3 Schedule
Urushihara
coming in Saturday (until 5)
Ota
Abc
back 11/2
...WELL,
SHE'S ALWAYS BEEN A SPOILED BRAT...
Ah, dammit, SO unread
And 95 spam? How annoying
SO WHEN SHE SAYS STUFF LIKE THAT...
WELL...


...I FEEL LIKE THAT PART OF HER IS GROWING
...THAT'S JUST WHO SHE IS.
I KNOW THAT, BUT...
...RA!
URUSHI-HARA!
はっ

AH! HASHIMA-SAN, ALREADY HARD AT WORK ON A SATURDAY?
Oh no, I just got here
Haha, me too
I KNOW WERE' BUSY, BUT THERE'S A PROBLEM AT HOME, AND I WAS WONDERING IF I COULD TAKE MONDAY OFF...
...AHH.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, GO AHEAD. I'LL APPROVE YOUR REQUEST.
WHAT?! REALLY?!
That's fast! I just turned it in yesterday!
IT'S ALRIGHT.
I KNOW THAT YOU'LL MAKE UP FOR IT WHEN YOU GET BACK!
Gwah, don't worry, I will!
MON-DAY... IS WHEN THAT NEW VIDEO GAME COMES OUT...
Really, just tell me.
...YEAH.


WE CAN GET THE PROGRAMMING DONE,
BUT NOBODY WOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE WORKERS LIKE HASEGAWA.
ha ha ha
MAN, I'M SO GLAD THAT YOU'RE THE BOSS AROUND HERE.
Manager Tsukuda was an idiot.
Oh, no.
IT'S THANKS TO ALL OF YOU THAT I WAS ABLE TO BECOME A MANAGER. ♡
...NO, NO.
IT'S OKAY.
IT'S ALRIGHT.
...HAHA.

I MEAN, I COULDN'T BELIEVE SHE HAD THE GUTS TO SAY THAT TO YOUR FACE...
BACK WHEN YOU WERE PROMOTED TO MANAGER.
...PROBABLY.
URUSHIHARA-SAN!
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR PROMOTION!

IT'S ALL BECAUSE EVERYONE WORKED SO HARD ON OUR LAST PROJECT.
Really? Come on
YOU'RE ALWAYS SUPER CALM, AND WE CAN ALL DEPEND ON YOU!
...REALLY?
Aha!
THANK YOU! ♡
I HEARD THAT YOU'RE THE YOUNGEST PERSON TO EVER BE PROMOTED TO MANAGER!
That's ama-zing!
URUSHI-HARA-SAN
IS ALWAYS SPACING OUT LIKE AN IDIOT.
SHE JUST LOOKS CALM ON THE OUTSIDE.
AH...
Wh-
HASE-GAWA?!

ehe!
YOU KNEW?
WELL, DON'T TELL ANYONE, OKAY? ♡
...I MEAN,
YOU TOTALLY COULD HAVE FIRED HER FOR THAT, RIGHT?
...YEAH.
...WHEN THEY TOLD ME THEY WERE GOING TO GIVE ME A PROMOTION,
I KNEW THAT SHE WOULD BE UPSET ABOUT IT.
BUT BEFORE I COULD FIND THE RIGHT TIME TO TELL HER, IT WAS MADE PUBLIC.
...WHAT? SO...

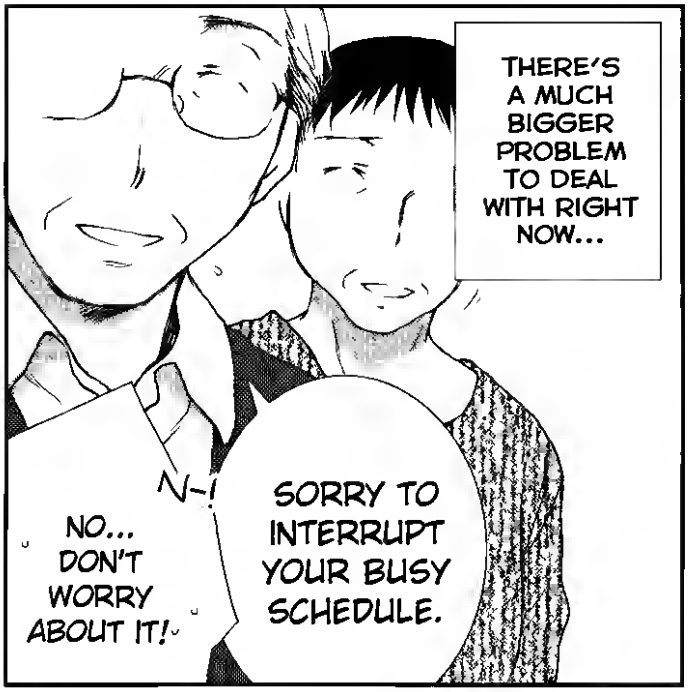
WHEN I GOT HOME
WE GOT INTO A HUGE FIGHT.
...ARE YOU STUPID?!
HOW COULD YOU MAKE SUCH A BIG DECISION...
WITHOUT EVEN ASKING ME...
...I DIDN'T NEED TO ASK YOU ABOUT IT.
DAM-MIT!
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS...
.....
...I'M SORRY, TSUGUMI.
IT'S OKAY.
IT'S ALRIGHT.
...THAT DAY WE CLUNG TO EACH OTHER IN A RAGE

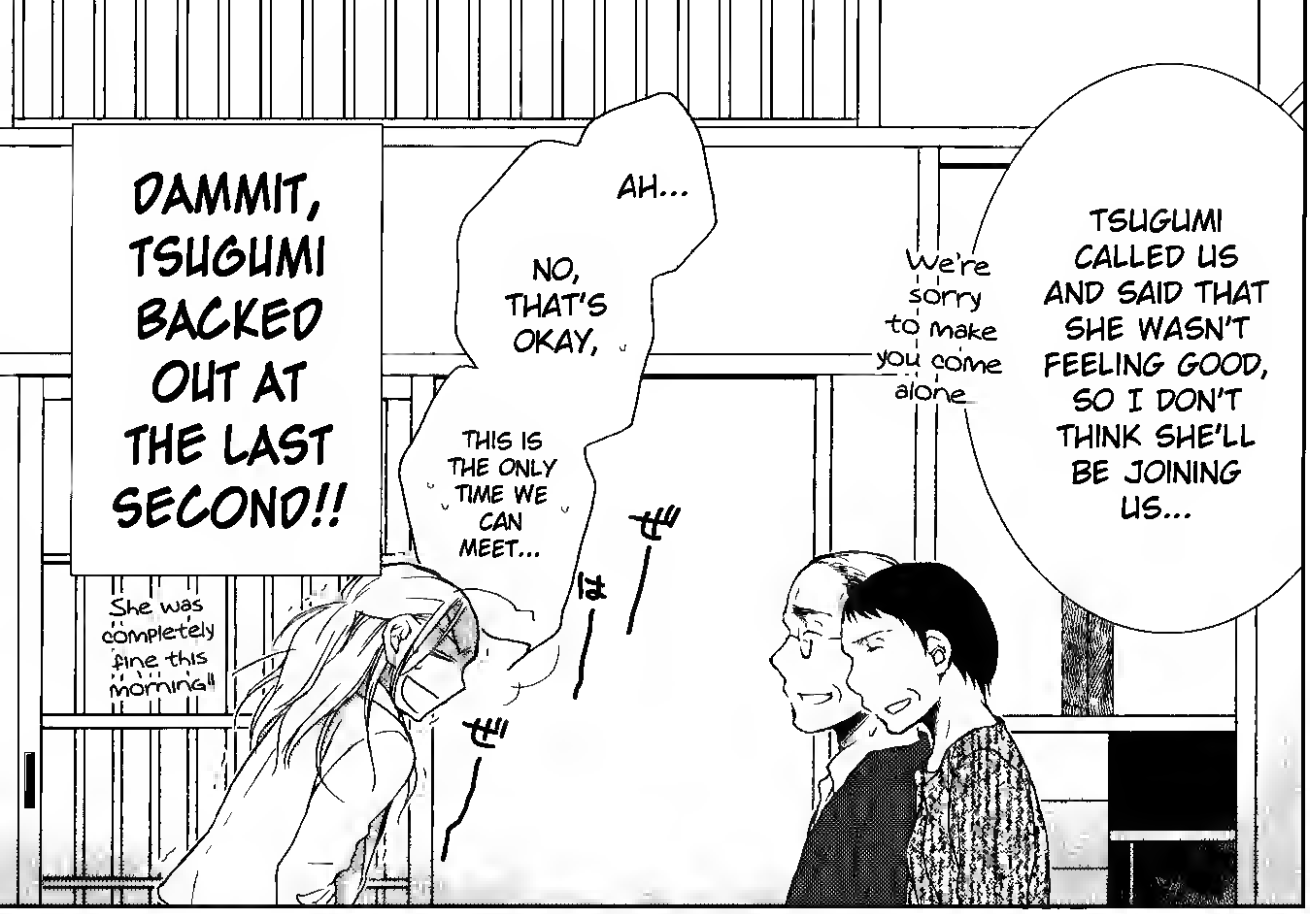
WE DID IT ALL NIGHT
AS IF WE WERE BEGGING FOR SOMETHING UNSEEN
AS IF WE WERE CLINGING TO SOMETHING WITHOUT A NAME
LIKE A CURSE
SHE'S GOT A MASTER'S DEGREE, BUT WHATEVER...
WHEN SHE HEARD THAT YOU'D BEEN PROMOTED, SHE WAS SO FRUSTRATED.
She's so full of herself, isn't she?
Oh?
I THINK SHE'S JUST AMBITIOUS. THAT'S A GOOD TRAIT TO HAVE, DON'T YOU THINK?
Want a candy?
...REALLY?
Oh, sure.
OH YEAH, DID YOU HEAR ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED WITH HASEGAWA,
WHEN THE TEAM WENT OUT TO DRINK?
Oh, this is good!
Isn't it?
WHAT HAPPENED?
OH MAN,

IT SOUNDS LIKE...
HASEGAWA'S GOT A BOYFRIEND!
...IT'S OKAY
SHE UP AND CONFESSED TO ALL THE GIRLS ON THE PROJECT.
SHE WAS TOTALLY TRYING TO HOLD BACK HOW EXCITED SHE WAS TO TELL ALL OF US.
IT LOOKED LIKE SHE REALLY WANTED TO TELL EVERYONE!
IT WAS SO WEIRD!
IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY, IT'S OKAY, JUST BE CAREFUL
AHH, BUT IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT,
IT SOUNDED LIKE SHE'D BEEN HIDING IT FOR A WHILE...
I BET SHE'S DATING SOMEONE HERE AT WORK...
...IT'S OKAY.

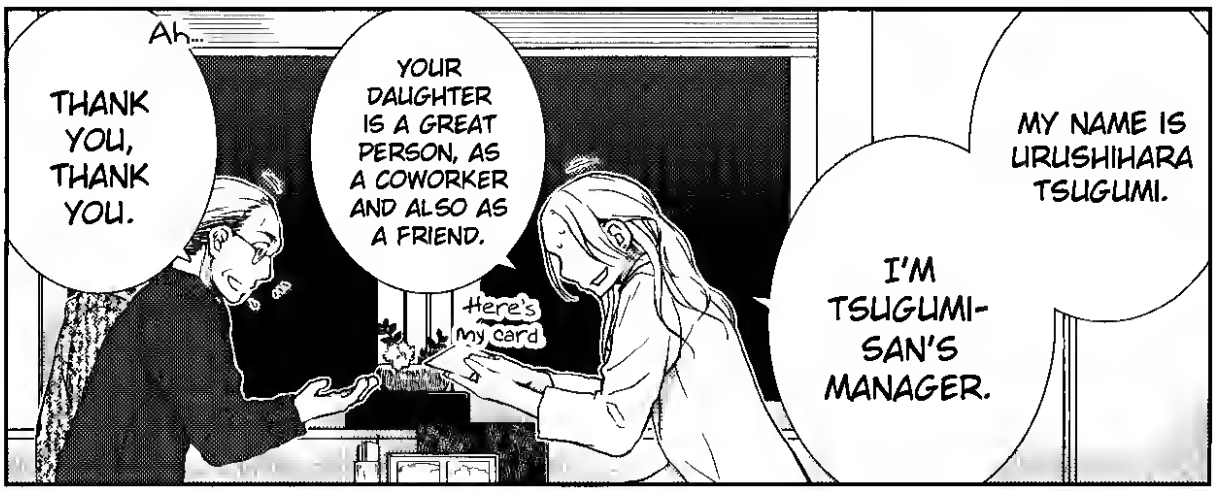
REALLY?
I'M JEALOUS.
I WANT A BOYFRIEND, TOO. ♪
...REA-LLY?

...BUT ANY-WAYS,
THAT DIDN'T MATTER AT ALL.
ガラッ
P-
PLEASE EXCUSE ME FOR BEING LATE...
Excuse me! My name is Urushi-hara!
Oh, yes! Your guests are here
Right this way!


THERE'S A MUCH BIGGER PROBLEM TO DEAL WITH RIGHT NOW...
SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR BUSY SCHEDULE.
N-!
NO... DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!


DAMMIT, TSUGUMI BACKED OUT AT THE LAST SECOND!!
She was completely fine this morning!!
AH...
NO, THAT'S OKAY,
THIS IS THE ONLY TIME WE CAN MEET...
We're sorry to make you come alone
TSUGUMI CALLED US AND SAID THAT SHE WASN'T FEELING GOOD, SO I DON'T THINK SHE'LL BE JOINING US...

ER, UM, LET ME FINALLY INTRODUCE MYSELF...
AH...
THREE MINUTES BEFORE WE WERE SUPPOSED TO MEET UP...
SHE SENT ME THAT TEXT
"Mee-chan, you don't have to go"
"Mee-chan..."
"My stomach hurts, so I'm going to have to cancel our plans for tonight— now..."
JUST NOW?!


Ah...
THANK YOU, THANK YOU.
YOUR DAUGHTER IS A GREAT PERSON, AS A COWORKER AND ALSO AS A FRIEND.
Here's my card
I'M TSUGUMI-SAN'S MANAGER.
MY NAME IS URUSHIHARA TSUGUMI.

SHE'S OUR ONLY DAUGHTER, SO WE MIGHT HAVE SPOILED HER A LITTLE.
We have two older boys, but we were veyr strict with them
I'M SURE SHE CAUSES LOTS OF TROUBLE FOR YOU, LIKE TODAY...
haha
...YOUR PARENTS...
REALLY KNOW YOU WELL, TSUGUMI...
AH... NO, SHE DOESN'T, NOT AT ALL.
HONESTLY, I AM MOST LIKELY THE ONE WHO CAUSES TROUBLE FOR HER.
EVEN SO, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR THE EXPENSIVE MELON YOU SENT ME...
It was very thoughtful of you
Oh
NO, NO,
WE'VE GOT TO THANK YOU FOR PREPARING THIS RESERVATION FOR US.
Excuse me for interrupting!
I've brought you your appetizers
...MY, THIS IS DELICIOUS!
Are these cabbage stalks?
I'M GLAD THAT YOU LIKE IT.
I wonder how they make it
This is great!
THIS RESTAURANT HAS SOME GREAT TOFU, TOO.
...HUH.

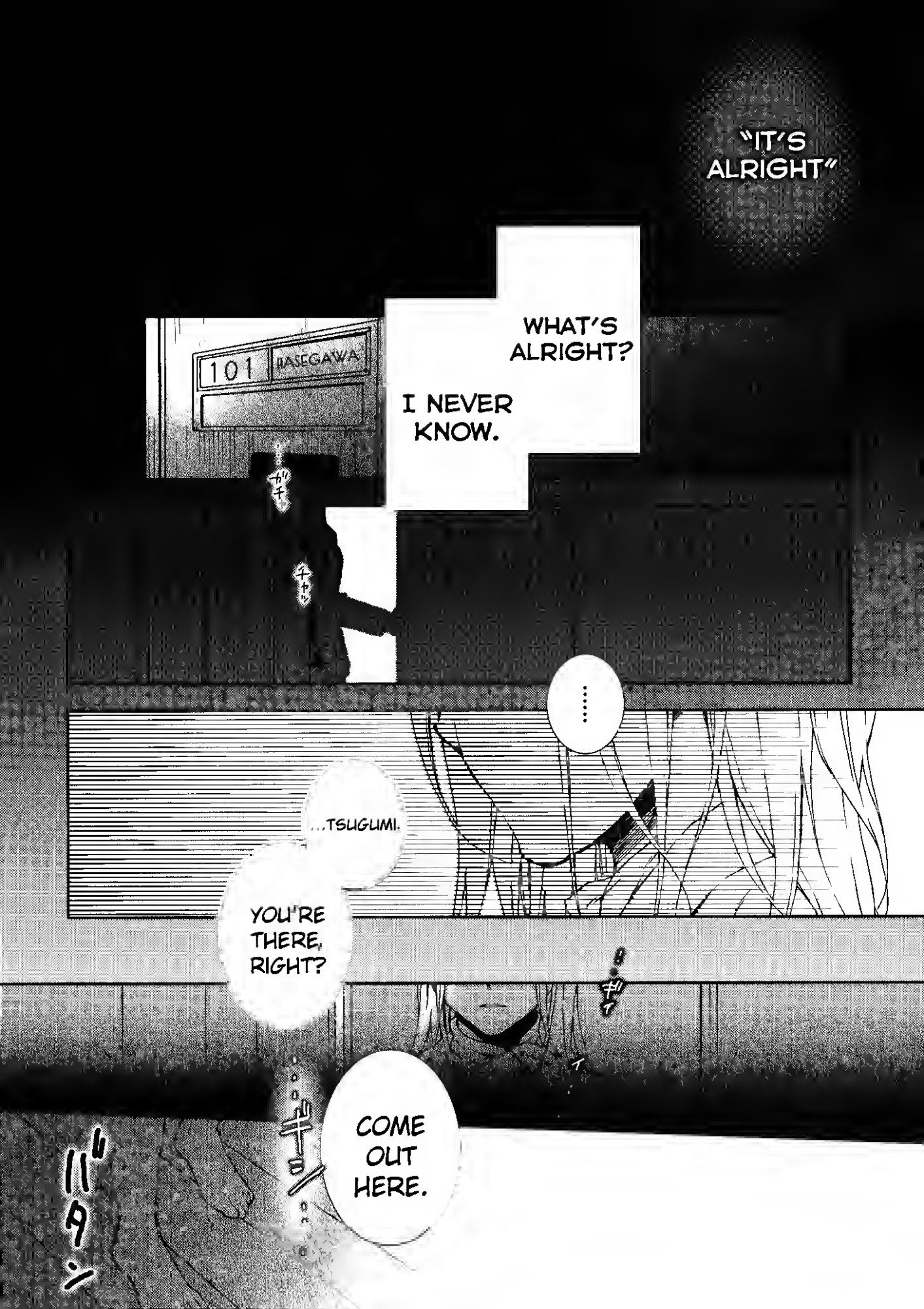
...THESE PEOPLE LOVE YOU A LOT.
THEY RAISED YOU WITH ALL THIS LOVE, TSUGUMI.
BY THE WAY, URUSHIHARA-SAN,
Er...
DO YOU HAPPEN TO HAVE A BOYFRIEND?
...HUH?
HONEY!
A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN LIKE HER PROBABLY DOES...AND SHE TOOK THE TIME OUT OF HER BUSY DAY TO MEET WITH US INSTEAD...
NO, NOTHING LIKE THAT.
SORRY TO SAY...
BUT...
I'M NOT INTERSTED IN DATING ANY MEN RIGHT NOW.
OH, HONEY...
...
...HUH?
UM...
THEN...

..WHAT ABOUT...
TSU-GUMI?
...HUH?
ドクン
WAIT WHAT
:
...EXCUSE ME?
WHAT?
TSUGUMI IS... EASY TO UNDER-STAND.
WHEN SHE'S INTERESTED IN SOMEONE, SHE CAN'T REALLY HIDE IT.
AND... WHEN WE TALK TO HER,
SHE SPENDS THE WHOLE TIME TALKING ABOUT YOU, URUSHIHARA-SAN.
...WHAT?

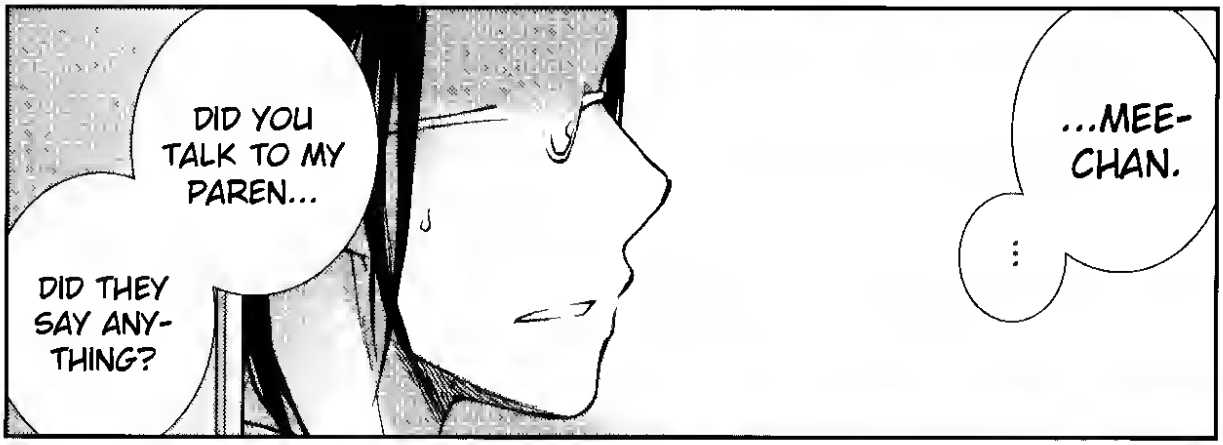
ha
ha
WELL,
IT'S JUST AN IRRATIONAL FEAR THE TWO OF US HAVE, BUT...
TSU-GUMI
TSU-GUMI
THESE PEOPLE
...HEY.
I DON'T CARE IF EVERYONE AT WORK FUSSES ABOUT IT
THEY REALLY, REALLY LOVE YOU
BUT YOUR FATHER IS SITTING HERE
SMILING AS IF HE'S BITING HIS TONGUE
AND YOUR MOTHER IS SITTING HERE WITH RED EYES
...CAN YOU TRY TO IMAGINE WHAT I'M SEEING RIGHT NOW?
...AH.

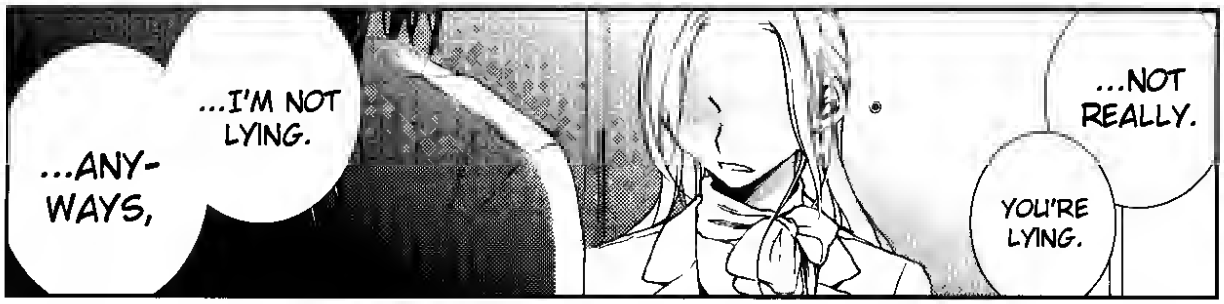
IT'S OKAY.
NOTHING LIKE THAT IS HAPP-ENING.
...HEY.
...IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT IT,
I'LL SEPARATE MYSELF FROM HER, IF YOU WANT.
HEY, TSUGUMI
Ah...
...NO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO THAT FAR...
NO,
I HADN'T CONSIDERED THAT THIS WOULD HAPPEN.
LET ME APOLOGIZE DEEPLY FOR WORRYING THE TWO OF YOU SO NEEDLESSLY.
...YOU KNOW WHAT?

THAT SPOILED PART OF YOU?
I REALLY, REALLY
REALLY, REALLY HATE IT
THE FOOD WAS DELICIOUS.
AND YOUR PARENTS TOLD ME "PLEASE TAKE CARE OF OUR DAUGHTER FROM NOW ON."
ON THE WAY HOME,
I THREW UP EVERYTHING I HAD EATEN THAT NIGHT.


"IT'S ALRIGHT"
WHAT'S ALRIGHT?
I NEVER KNOW.
101
HASEGAWA
ガチ
チャッ
……
...TSUGUMI.
YOU'RE THERE, RIGHT?
ガタ
ガタ
COME OUT HERE.
ドンドン
バタン

...YOU CAN HAVE YOUR SPARE KEY BACK.
TAKE IT.
チャリ…

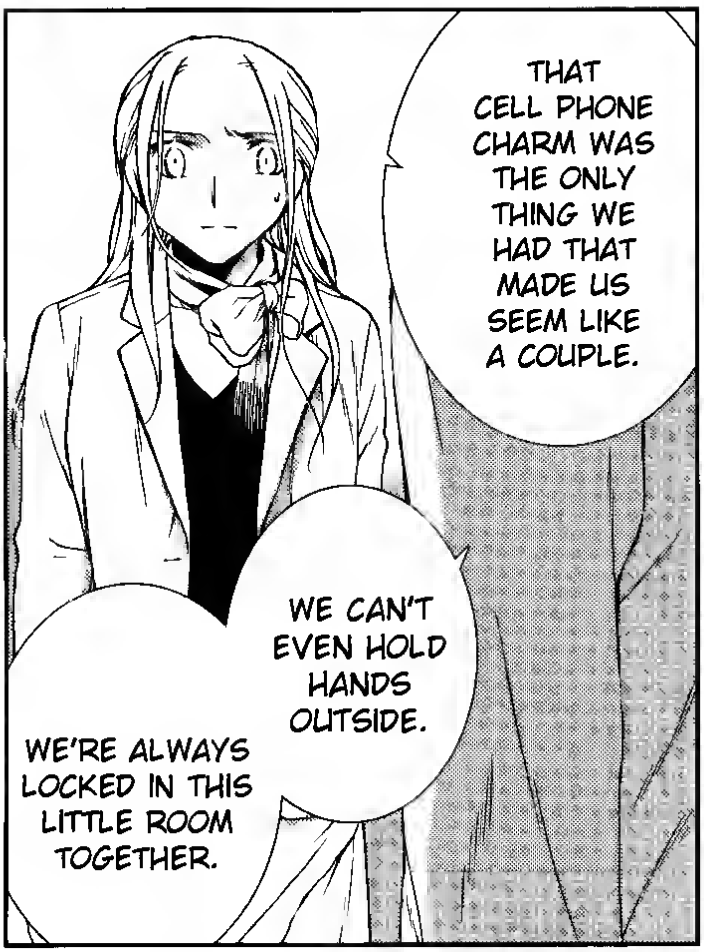

...MEE-CHAN.
…
DID YOU TALK TO MY PAREN...
DID THEY SAY ANY-THING?


...NOT REALLY.
YOU'RE LYING.
...I'M NOT LYING.
...ANY-WAYS,

WHAT DO YOU THINK WAS THE REASON I WAS MAD THIS MORNING?
WHY DIDN'T YOU UNDER-STAND?
...WHY DON'T YOU GET IT?
...YEAH.

I WAS NER-VOUS!
AT THAT DRINKING PARTY...
DIDN'T YOU KNOW THAT YOU COULD HAVE OUTED OUR...

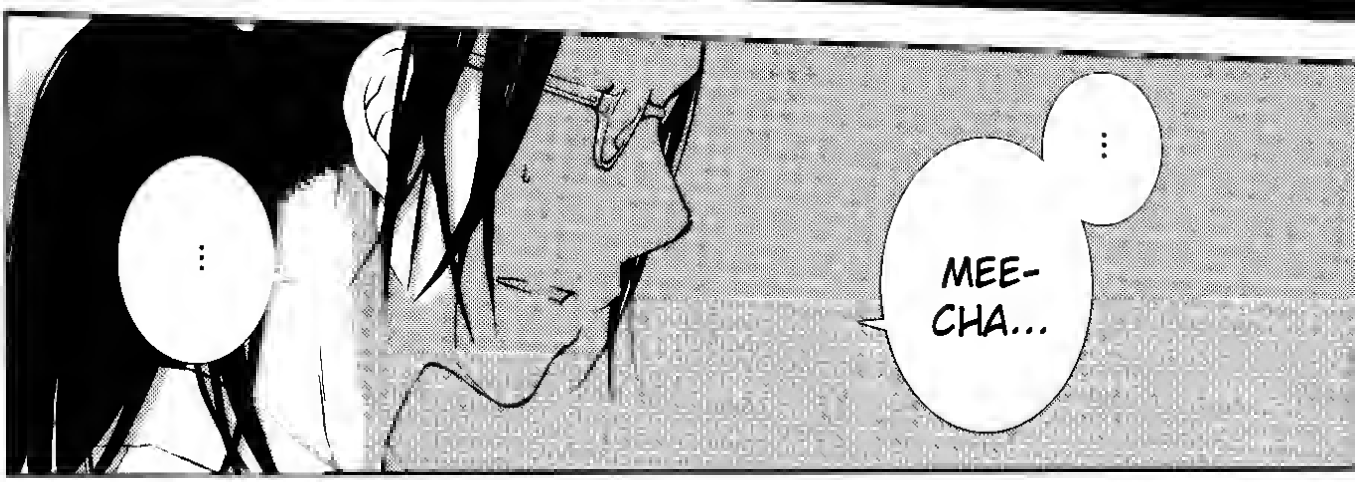
...!
...I DON'T CARE...
...IF YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT THE CELL PHONE CHARM THAT I BOUGHT.


THAT CELL PHONE CHARM WAS THE ONLY THING WE HAD THAT MADE US SEEM LIKE A COUPLE.
WE CAN'T EVEN HOLD HANDS OUTSIDE.
WE'RE ALWAYS LOCKED IN THIS LITTLE ROOM TOGETHER.

IT'S JUST A RANDOM NOVELTY ITEM THAT YOU CAN GET ANYWHERE.
BUT I WANTED...
I WANTED US TO MATCH, MEE-CHAN.

...THEN WHY...
WHY DIDN'T YOU COME TODAY?
DID YOU NOT HAVE THE COURAGE...
TO TELL YOUR PARENTS "WE'RE DATING"?
...SERI-OUSLY.
I NEVER EVEN ATE THE NICE MELON THEY SENT ME.
AH...
SHE'S PROB-ABLY GOING TO CRY AGAIN
HUH?
WHY?

HOW COULD I EAT IT?
AFTER LYING TO THE TWO PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT YOU MORE THAN ANYONE IN THE WORLD...
...HOW COULD I...
I'M NOT GOING TO CRY
...I CAN'T CRY BECAUSE OF THIS.



CRYING WON'T SAVE ANYTHING

TODAY, I REALLY DID WANT...
TO SAY SOMETHING TO MY PARENTS.
BUT I WAS SCARED, AND DECIDED NOT TO GO.
...MEE-CHAN...
I KNOW THAT WHEN YOU SAY "IT'S OKAY",
IT'S REALLY NOT...
...BUT I STILL RAN AWAY.
AND I'M SORR...
SHE'S NOT GOING TO FORGIVE ME IF I CRY, BUT...

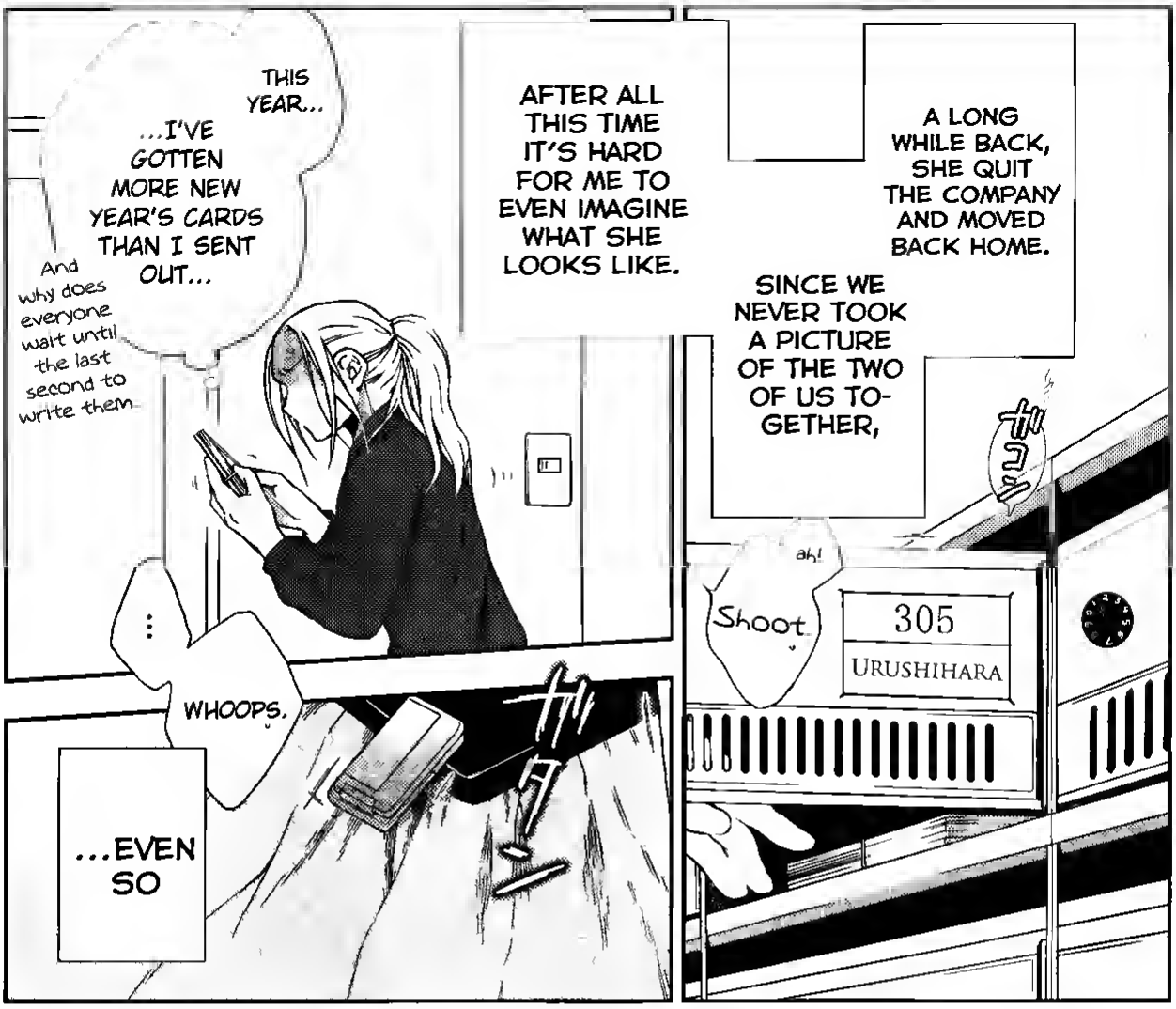
IT WON'T MAKE IT ALL RIGHT

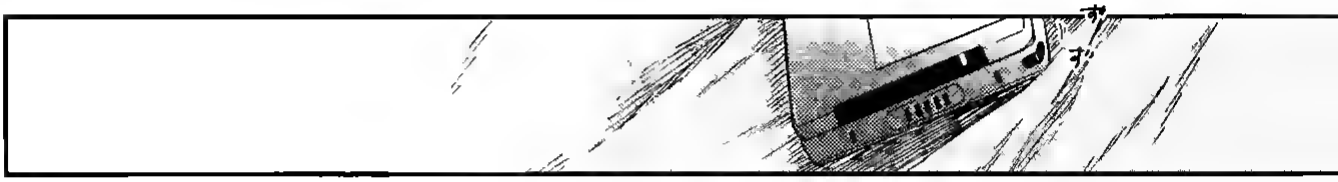
WHEN DID IT ALL GO WRONG?
SHE WAS JUST SO IMPORTANT TO ME
...YOU CAN'T DO THAT, CAN YOU?
...HUH?
...JUST NOW, I TALKED TO THE CHIEF,
AND HE SAID NOT TO TRUST YOU WHEN YOU SAID THAT "IT'S OKAY".
...AH, WELL-
...SO!
I THINK...
...I'M GOING TO TRY MY HARDEST TO DO IT ON MY OWN.
SHE WAS NAIVE
I DON'T... WANT TO BOTHER THE CHIEF ABOUT THIS ANY FURTHER.
BUT SHE WAS THE ONLY ONE
WHO WAS LOOKING STRAIGHT AT ME

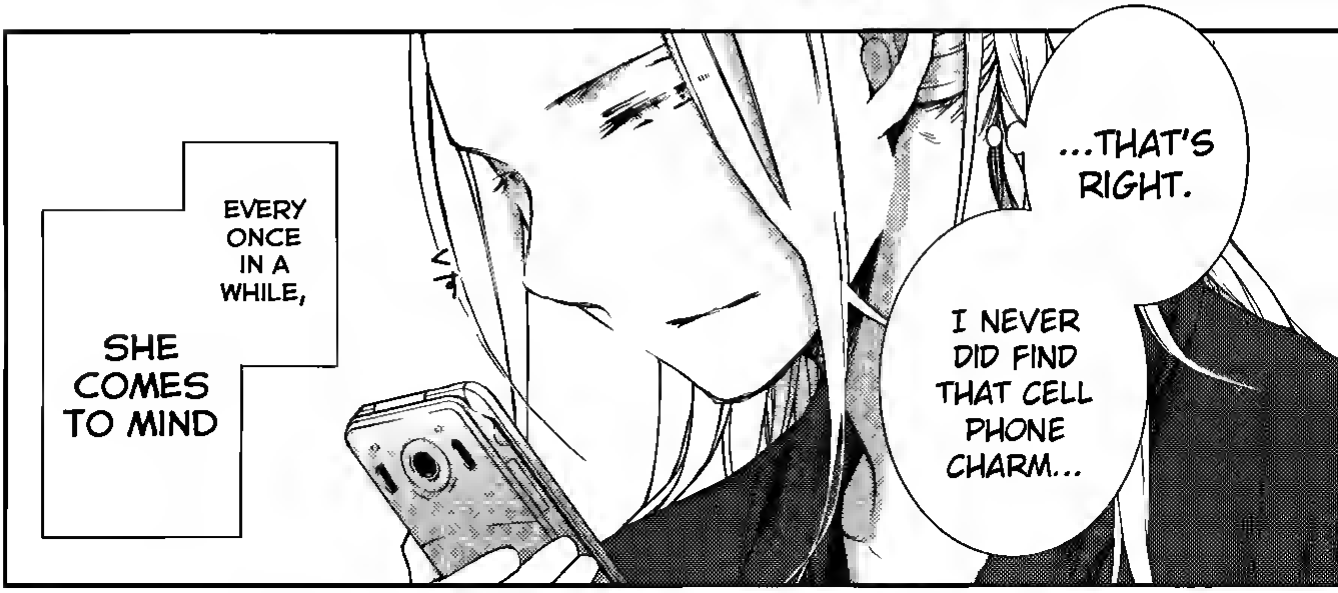
...TSU-GUMI.
WE HAVE SEX WITHOUT THE MEANS TO REPRODUCE
...TSU-GUMI?
ARE YOU AWAKE...?
WEIGHED DOWN BY FEELINGS WE CAN'T TELL ANYONE
...YEAH.

YOU KNOW,
...THEY TOLD ME THAT WORK WOULD BE HARD,
BUT I STILL TOOK THE PROMOTION.
...OKAY.
...
I THOUGHT ABOUT... SAVING UP SOME MONEY
AND MOVING INTO OUR OWN PLACE
SOMEWHERE FAR, FAR AWAY
5:58
...BUT THAT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN...
...HEY.

AFTER THAT, THE SEASONS TURNED AS THEY DID
...BUT I NEVER GOT A CLEAR ANSWER TO MY QUESTION.
EVEN SO
SOME-HOW I'VE CONTINUED LIVING IN THIS WORLD.
...WERE WE?
THIS HAS TO END.
THAT'S WHY...
WERE WE WRONG?
I LOVE YOU.
...
WHAT WERE WE?
5:52 SU
6:45


THIS YEAR...
...I'VE GOTTEN MORE NEW YEAR'S CARDS THAN I SENT OUT...
And why does everyone wait until the last second to write them
AFTER ALL THIS TIME IT'S HARD FOR ME TO EVEN IMAGINE WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE.
A LONG WHILE BACK, SHE QUIT THE COMPANY AND MOVED BACK HOME.
SINCE WE NEVER TOOK A PICTURE OF THE TWO OF US TOGETHER,
ah!
Shoot
305
URUSHIHARA
WHOOPS.
...EVEN SO




EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE,
SHE COMES TO MIND
...THAT'S RIGHT.
I NEVER DID FIND THAT CELL PHONE CHARM...

SHE WAS SO OBSESSED WITH ME
ｶﾀﾘ…
BUT WHEN SHE DISAP-PEARED,
OUR BONDS WERE CUT AND LOST FOREVER
BUT THAT REALLY CHEAP PLASTIC BOTTLE CHARM THAT CAME WITH THE TEA WE BOUGHT WAS SO TACKY...
It looked like this
a tiny charm
I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY SHE SPENT 30,000 YEN ON IT...
well, nothing I can do about it now.
!
AH...
TIME PASSES
AND EVERYTHING CHANGES

WHAT A NICE SMILE.
THAT QUEST-ION
We're Just Married
on September 23rd,20
rst New Year's as newlyweds.
l getting used to our married life,
e treat us with kindness this year.
u Yuuji - Tsugumi (Hasegawa)
THAT WEDDING DRESS...
LOOKS REALLY GOOD ON HER.
"WHAT EXACTLY WERE WE?"
I STILL DON'T HAVE AN ANSWER

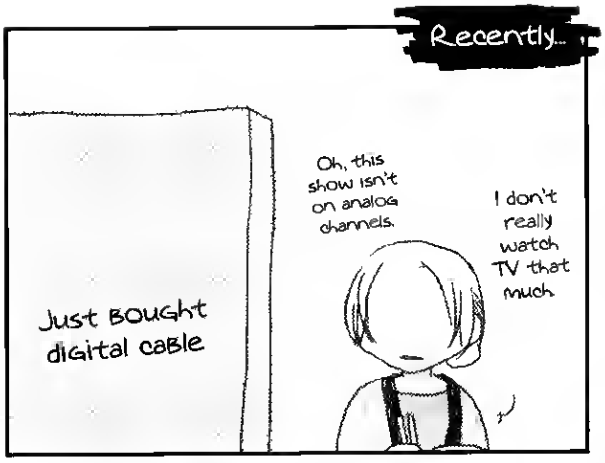
MAYBE IT'S SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE NAMED
(旧姓 長谷川)
Mee-chan, are you doing okay?
I STILL DON'T KNOW.
...I'M OKAY.
I'M STILL SMOKE-FREE, AND WORK IS GOING WELL, TOO.
AND THERE'S SOMEONE I'VE BEEN INTERESTED IN LATELY, TOO.
...I'M DOING ALRIGHT.
EVEN IF I LOSE EVERY-THING, AND EVERY-THING CHANGES AROUND ME...

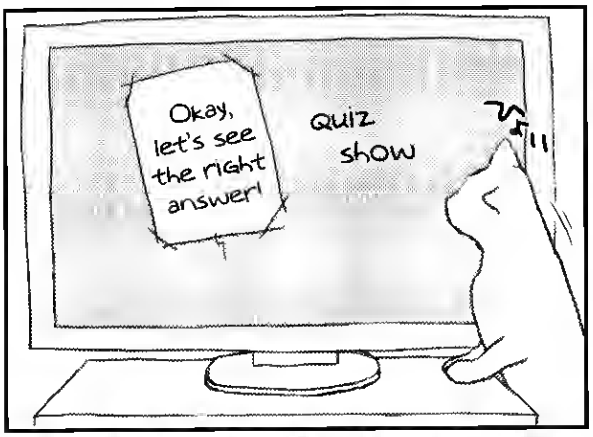
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR NAMING

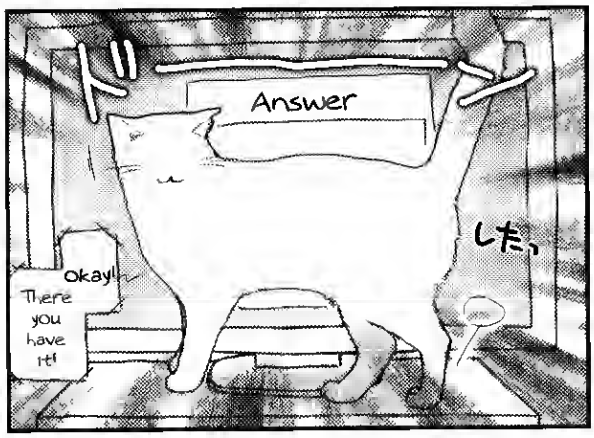
THE LAST LITTLE PAIN IN MY HEART

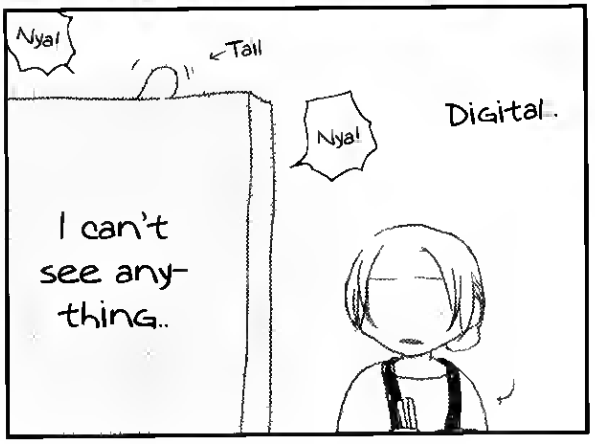
"LOVE"

Fin









Hello. Sometimes other people call me Shigi Sawayaka, but I don't always look refreshed and happy, I don't mean to, be mean but when I try to write something normally, the mean feelings end up in my works, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, my heart and stomach feel the pain of it my name is Shigisawa Kaya I-I'm really sorry.

Anyways, this time, like the title says, I tried to write a book of stories about feelings that "I can't tell anyone - I don't want to tell anyone" Like a central couple, and the people around them, etc.
I wanted to write a story where the characters could continue having a life outside the story, especially with the stories I've done of late, but as time went on, my opinion changed a little I ended up making the main character and observer the same person, and I loved the different feel of it I drew it out, but I feel really troubled about it.

And so all of my characters all have terrible personalities and are bad people.
(date) The people you refer to are the people most like the good parts of you, so you all must have a lot of bad parts about you! ..errr, I'm sure all you readers aren't like that, so living the way you are is fine, and sometimes there are lots of good thing abou you. that's what it means to be human! But whenever someone says "That's not right!" I have to apologize and respond with a serious face, I feel.

But I don't think I'll ever be able to draw a normal, good person in my manga. I love to draw the good people who don't know what they're doing but keep moving forward in whichever direction they can!! ..I think I'm not a good person, so this probably isn't a good thing, and as soon as I think of that I enter into "guilt mode". But if I can, today, and tomorrow, I want to move forward into the world little by little, and keep moving in every direction I can.

If we ever have the chance, let's meet again.

Kaya Shigisawa 2010. 11

I can't tell anyone. ending

presented by Futari wa Pretty Anon

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That's the end of the volume!
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